

Message Text

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42

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2489

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

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AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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USCINCEUR

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TAGS: PFOR PINS ET

SUBJ: ETHIOPIAN REVOLUTION GOES SOCIALIST (CONTINUED)

REF: ADDIS ABABA 15118

INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: AS CONTAINED IN REFTEL "ETHIOPIA
TIKDEM" MEANS "ETHIOPIAN SOCIALISM" AND "ETHIOPIAN SOCIALISM"
MEANS EQUALITY, SELF-RELIANCE, THE DIGNITY OF LABOR, THE
SUPREMACY OF THE COMMON GOOD, AND THE INDIVISIBILITY OF ETHIOPIAN
UNITY. THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS EXCERPTS FROM THE ANNOUNCEMENT
SUMMARIZED IN REFTEL. END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

1. ETHIOPIAN HERALD OF SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, GIVES SHORTENED
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VERSION OF TRANSLATION OF ANNOUNCEMENT OF ETHIOPIAN SOCIALISM.

TEXT WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT.

2. THERE FOLLOWS SUMMARY OF UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH VERSION TRANSLATED AND GIVEN TO MISSION OFFICER BY MIKAEL IMRU, MINISTER OF INFORMATION. COMPLETE TEXT WILL BE POUCHED TO DEPARTMENT.

3. SALIENT EXCERPTS FOLLOW:

A. STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT. THE PEOPLE SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO ADMINISTER THEMSELVES BEGINNING AT THE LOCAL LEVEL IN THE JUDICIAL, LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS. DETAILS OF THIS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC SUBSEQUENT TO THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE PEOPLE.

B. IN THE POLITICAL AREA, AS OPPOSED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE DOMAIN, THERE MUST BE AN OVERALL ORGANIZATION WHICH ENSURES POPULAR PARTICIPATION, ACTS AS A VEHICLE FOR DISSEMINATING THE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY, AND SERVES AS A WATCHDOG FOR THE GOVERNMENT. THIS IS A SINGLE NATIONAL POLITICAL PARTY EMBRACING ALL THE PEOPLE AND MOBILIZING THEM TOWARDS ONE GOAL. IF THE GOAL OF THE REVOLUTION IS TO ENSURE INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM TO GO SEPARATE WAYS RATHER THAN BRING ABOUT FUNDAMENTAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE THE EXISTENCE OF MANY POLITICAL PARTIES CAN BE JUSTIFIED. HOWEVER, SINCE BASIC OBJECTIVE OF THE PRESENT MOVEMENT IS TO GET SUPPORT OF POPULATION AT LARGE, A SINGLE SOCIALIST PARTY WHICH BRINGS TOGETHER PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS IN THE NATION IS ABSOLUTELY INDISPENSABLE.

C. IN ECONOMIC DOMAIN, THE IDEA THAT THE COMMON GOOD TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER THE PURSUIT OF INDIVIDUAL GAIN IS THE STARTING POINT OF BOTH ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL POLICY. SINCE GIVING PRIORITY TO THE INTEREST OF THE MAJORITY MEANS CURING BASIC ECONOMIC ILLS, THE PRIMARY OBJECTIVES OF ECONOMIC POLICY WILL BE THE ABOLITION OF POVERTY. TO ACCOMPLISH THIS AND TO ENSURE THE PREVENTION OF ECONOMIC EXPLOITATION, THIS WILL REQUIRE EITHER THE GUIDANCE OR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF THE NATION'S ECONOMIC RESOURCES. ACCORDINGLY, RESOURCES CRUCIAL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OR WHICH PROVIDE AN INDISPENSABLE SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY WILL HAVE TO BE BROUGHT UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL. ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES NOT AMENABLE TO CENTRALIZED PUBLIC MANAGEMENT WILL BE SUBJECT A PUBLIC MONITORING TO ENSURE THE PUBLIC INTEREST IS PROPERLY SERVED. ACTIVITIES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WHICH ARE NOT HARMFUL TO THE INTEREST OF SOCIETY, WILL BE LEFT IN PRIVATE HANDS INSOFAR AS THEY DO NOT IMPEDE THE OBJECTIVES OF ETHIOPIA TIKDEM. (COMMENT; MIKAEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMRU THOLD MISSION OFFICER THAT THRUST ECONOMIC SECTION OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT SHOULD BE READ AS AIMED AT "MIXED ECONOMY" NOT RPT NOT TOTAL TAKEOVER OF PRIVATE HOLDINGS.)

D. SINCE LAND BELONGS TO THE ENTIRE ETHIOPIAN COMMUNITY, IT IS THE GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO OVERSEE ITS USE AND MANAGEMENT. CONSEQUENTLY, THE GOVERNMENT WILL PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF COMMUNALLY OWNED LAND OR PRIVATE HOLDINGS UTILIZED BY COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS. THE FORTHCOMING LAW ON LAND REFORM

WILL IN PARTICULAR COVER WHICH INDIVIDUALS HAVE A RIGHT TO OPERATE COMMUNAL, COOPERATIVE OR PRIVATE HOLDINGS AND HOW THEY ARE TO BE MANAGED. THOSE WHO OPERATE COMMUNAL AND COOPERATIVE FARMS WILL BE GIVEN SPECIAL GOVERNMENT SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE.

E. SINCE ONE OF THE ELEMENTS OF ETHIOPIA TIKDEM IS SELF-RELIANCE, INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY, THE EXPLOITATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES (PARTICULARLY MINING), THE DEVELOPMENT OF HANDICRAFT AND SMALL SCALE ENTERPRISES WILL BE BASED ON THIS POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY. FOREIGN CAPITAL AND KNOW-HOW WILL BE GIVEN THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT INsofar AS IT PROMOTES OVERALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BRINGS BENEFIT TO SOCIETY.

F. SOCIAL POLICIES REQUIRE THE ERADICATION OF DISEASE AND IGNORANCE. THEREFORE, ALL CITIZENS SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO FREE FUNDAMENTAL EDUCATION INCLUDING SPECIAL LITERACY PROGRAMS FOR THOSE BEYOND SCHOOL AGE. PARTICULAR CARE WILL BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT EDUCATIONAL POLICY IS TUNED TO SPECIAL NATIONAL SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CONDITIONS AND NOT TO THOSE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES. ENCOURAGEMENT WILL BE GIVEN TO THE WORK OF INTELLECTUALS, WRITERS, AND AUTHORS TO HASTEN ERADICATION OF IGNORANCE AND PROMOTE EXPANSION OF KNOWLEDGE. STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO IMPROVE RURAL HEALTH SERVICES AND TO ENSURE THAT LACK OF MONEY DOES NOT PREVENT ACCESS TO MEDICAL SERVICES.

G. PRIMARY CONSIDERATION IN NATION'S FOREIGN POLICY IS BROTHERLY AND PEACEFUL RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES. ETHIOPIA WILL STAND BY THE SIDE OF HER AFRICAN SISTER STATES IN DEFENSE OF AFRICAN UNITY, INDEPENDANCE, AND PROGRESS. ON INTERNATIONAL LEVEL, ETHIOPIA WILL PURSUE A POLICY WHICH WILL PROMOTE GLOBAL PEACE AND PROGRESS AND BRING ABOUT RAPID ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF DEVELOPING NATIONS. SHE WILL FOLLOW A NON-ALIGNED POLICY, WILL OPPOSE NEO-COLONIALISM AND IMPERIALISM, AND ANY INTERFERENCE IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS OF INDEPENDENT NATIONS. THAT IS HOW THE NEW ETHIOPIA WILL BE BUILT.

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